

Application No. 10/518,327
Amendment Dated June 26, 2007
Response to Office Action Dated December 26, 2007

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) Method for diagnosing malfunctions of apparatus delivering goods or services against payment, of the automatic terminal type, said method comprising the steps of:

calculating the value of at least one data item representative of the operation of said apparatus;

comparing said calculated value to a predetermined reference value; and

deducing the occurrence of a malfunction in the event of a predetermined difference between said values.

2. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said data item representative of the operation of said apparatus is representative of the frequency of payments made at said apparatus.

3. (withdrawn) Method according to claim 1, wherein said data item representative of the operation of said apparatus is the time that has elapsed since the last payment made to said apparatus.

4. (withdrawn) Method according to claim 1, wherein said data item representative of the operation of said apparatus is the time that has elapsed since the last payment made via said apparatus for each of the payment means accepted by said apparatus.

5. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said reference value is representative of the average of values taken by said data item representative of the operation of the apparatus.

6. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said reference value depends at least on a parameter such as the time of day or the apparatus concerned.

7. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein predetermined difference depends at least on a parameter such as the time of day or the apparatus concerned.

8. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the operations of calculating a data item representative of the operation of said apparatus and comparing the calculated value and a predetermined reference value are effected directly by said apparatus.

9. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the operations of calculating a data item representative of the operation of said apparatus and comparing the

Application No. 10/518,327
Amendment Dated June 26, 2007
Response to Office Action Dated December 26, 2007

calculated value and a predetermined reference value are partly or completely effected by a server adapted to communicate with said apparatus.

10. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus is a terminal for paying for parking spaces, such as a parking voucher dispenser or a parking meter.